

There will be times throughout the day for Members and staff and the general public to pay their respects to these two men to say a prayer, to consider how much we owe these fallen colleagues and their families and all those like them throughout the country.

It is important to note that the public will be welcome in the Capitol during that time, and welcome to join us in our solemn tribute in the Rotunda, with the exception of only one hour in the afternoon where there will be a private opportunity for Members of Congress to observe and to pay our respects to these men.

It is most fitting that the public, our constituents from all over the country and all over the world, should be there with us, as they will be, for Officers Chestnut and Gibson and their colleagues were defending them, too.

I can understand the wish in some quarters to make the Capitol absolutely impregnable, or even to close it to the general public so that nothing like this could ever happen again. We will, of course, examine closely all of our security procedures again as we continue to do almost daily to see whether anything can be done to improve it. But we have to keep in mind that this Capitol is, more than any other edifice in the country, and certainly I believe in the world, the people's house.

When I walk out of my majority leader's office and take three steps, I am standing with constituents from all across America. They are there every day. Sometimes they seem surprised that they would see Senators and Congressman walking amongst them. But that is the way it should be. This building is accessible and it amazes our visitors, domestic and foreign, many of whom have had chance encounters with Members of Congress, the President's Cabinet, in the halls, in the dining rooms, in the elevators. The reason the Capitol is so open is that our society is so open. We pride ourselves on that fact.

The people's access to their Capitol is the physical manifestation of democracy. It represents something rare and precious, something all Americans take for granted. It represents the bond between those in high office and those who put them there. It represents, in short, our freedom.

For that freedom, throughout our history, men and women have been willing to stand guard, to fight if necessary, and to die on many fields in many places in the world.

They have done all that to protect their homes, to shield their loved ones, and to preserve their Nation. Some of those brave individuals are memorialized in the Capitol itself in statues of bronze and marble. They stand among us, mute but strangely eloquent about the price of liberty.

Tomorrow, amid those grand statues of heroes past, we will honor two of our own to whom heroism was simply duty.

For those two, for Officers Jacob Chestnut, affectionately known as J.J., and John Gibson, this open Capitol, with wide-eyed kids learning the Nation's history, with strangers from abroad awed by its grandeur, with Americans of all creeds and races and religions celebrating their common faith in God, and in one another, this Capitol itself will be their enduring monument.

#### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate later on today will adopt an appropriate resolution. It will be a joint resolution, House and Senate. We will confer with the leaders of both bodies on both sides of the aisle as to the appropriate time to have that vote, and we are reviewing the language at this time.

In addition to that, we will resume consideration later on today of the credit union bill which was debated last Friday. I understand that Senator HAGEL will be present later on to offer his amendment regarding credit union loans. Senator SHELBY is tentatively scheduled to offer his amendment at about 3:30.

By previous consent, a rollcall vote with respect to the Gramm amendment will occur at approximately 5:30, or shortly thereafter, but not later than 5:45. It is also hoped that we will vote in relation to the Hagel amendment immediately following that vote, and therefore two stacked votes are expected at around 5:30 this afternoon, with the possibility of one other.

After the Senate completes consideration of the credit union bill, it will move to available appropriations bills. We have three or four that could be available this week. Health care legislation is on the agenda for the week, plus any conference reports that become available and any legislative or executive items, and we do expect, because of the cooperation we received on appropriations bills, we will be able to move a number of Executive Calendar nominations this week. This is the final week prior to our August recess period, when we will have an opportunity to go to our respective States, so I know our days and nights will be quite busy. It is necessary we do that to complete our work.

I thank all Senators in advance for their cooperation.

I yield the floor.

Mr. THURMOND addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGEL). The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I have another engagement at this time, but sometime during the day I expect to make a statement on the death of Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson, heroes of the Senate.

#### TRIBUTE TO OFFICERS JACOB CHESTNUT AND JOHN GIBSON

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I rise today to honor John Gibson and Jacob

"J.J." Chestnut, the officers who gave their lives Friday in the line of duty.

For Members of the Senate, I would remind them that John Gibson was one of the individuals who was a part of our security detail on our most recent retreat. Yesterday morning, after an early morning run, I stopped by the Capitol where people had placed flowers at the steps, and I talked with a young officer who told me how proud he was of J.J. J.J. was the kind of person who, after 20 years of service in the military, took under his wing the new men and women who were coming into the Capitol Hill Police Force service and to help them on a personal basis, giving them tips about the kinds of things to which they needed to pay attention with their training, the kinds of things they ought to try to accomplish when they are dealing with our constituents when they come into the Capitol.

Many times, I am sure, we forget the difficulty of the duty that they have, on the one hand to be trained to the extent to react the way they reacted on Friday, unselfishly, putting themselves in harm's way so that others may survive, but at the same time having the responsibility of treating our constituents, our friends, our neighbors, when they come to the Capitol, with such graciousness. It is a really difficult job, and I just want to express to the members of the Capitol Hill Police Force, all of those who participate in providing security, our deep appreciation for what they do on a day-to-day basis. Each day we come to work, we pass these officers. As the majority leader said, some of them we know by name, others we have become friends with.

I particularly remember C.J. Martin over at the Delaware entrance in the Russell Building, how each morning we would discuss some very personal things about our lives, the kinds of common bonds, if you will, that we shared. And so, while I didn't know J.J. Chestnut and John Gibson to the degree that I have known other members of the police force here, I know that they were very special people. Again, listening to that young officer talk about how J.J. would stand at that door, erect in that military stance, with great pride, frankly, in the job that he performed, and the reaction that he had, again, with the people as they came in, we don't take what they do for granted, and we want them to know that we are concerned about them and we are concerned about their families.

I had the opportunity on Friday evening to visit the families of J.J. Chestnut and John Gibson and to express to them our deep concern and our love for them, wanting them to know that we cherish their fathers, their husbands, that they mean a great deal to us, that we will do what we can to comfort them, that we won't forget them, that we will remember the families.

While the officers are the ones who lost their lives, now it is a tough and

difficult time for the families. Each one of us, I know, has had the experience of losing someone close to us and we can feel the pain of the tragedy that took place, and we want those families to know that we have not forgotten them and that we will do what we can over the years to see that they are not forgotten.

Friday, in talking with the young sons of "Gibson," as they refer to him, I can only imagine the hurt and pain that those boys 14 and 15 years old must be feeling. I say to all of us, regardless of the role that we play in the Senate or in the House, we are all one big family.

In a sense, there are many families within the family. There is the family of officers and the special grief that they must be experiencing today, as they are required to carry out their duties at a moment in which their minds and hearts must be focused on their lost officers and their families. So I ask everyone, if they would, during this day and the next several days, to pray for those families—for comfort, for love, and for hope.

Again, I can remember a particular time in which my younger brother passed away. I was so angry about his loss; people would come up to me and say, "CONNIE, time will take care, time will heal," and I was so angry I said, "I don't want it to be healed. I don't want time to take care of it. I am angry."

But I hope that the families, especially the children, will deal with those feelings inside, that they will share those thoughts to get them out so they don't carry around that hurt and that pain. We want them to know that we truly love them, that we will miss their fathers, their husbands, and we will try to make the Senate and House and the Capitol a place in which they can be proud.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business for not to extend beyond the hour of 1 p.m.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho is recognized.

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, thank you very much.

#### TRIBUTE TO OFFICERS JOHN GIBSON AND J.J. CHESTNUT

Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, for the past 5 years I have had the

honor of sponsoring the resolution designating National Peace Officers Memorial Day. This year we added the names of 159 officers to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Since the inception of this memorial, 14,662 peace officers have been added to the wall.

Next year, two more names will now be added to the wall. These memorials and others around the Nation serve as proof that the individuals who serve this Nation, as our guardians of peace, do so at great personal risk. There are few communities in America that have not been touched by the senseless death of a peace officer by violent means.

This community of Capitol Hill has been touched by tragedy. On Friday, two of our own, Officers John Gibson and J.J. Chestnut, were felled by an assailant while they performed their duties.

America should know that for all the influence of this city and this place, this is, in some ways, like a small town. We know the people in this community as well as we know the people in our own communities back home. The employees who work here day to day become very familiar faces to those of us who are sent here temporarily by our States.

The Capitol Hill Police have a very special duty and a very special trust. They guard this place, this summit of freedom, this people's house, and keep it safe for the citizens of the world. The Capitol Hill Police perform this duty with an unwavering commitment to our safety. And they are willing, as Officers Gibson and Chestnut proved, to lay down their lives for all of our safety.

John Gibson, who I knew personally—a tremendous professional in every sense of the word. When I saw his photograph in the paper, the difference was every time that I would see John or have a word with him his face always had a smile.

J.J. Chestnut, who worked in one of the entrances to this great building, like so many of our officers, was perceived to be more than just a police officer to the wonderful citizens who come to this magnificent building. I think they sense that instead of just a police officer, they are being greeted by ambassadors in the people's house.

I believe that our Capitol Police Department exemplify the finest in America. I have never heard any statement that any of our police officers have been badge-heavy. I have simply heard great reviews of the professionals who carry the badge of the Capitol Police Department.

I know many of the Capitol Police officers personally. I have listened to stories about their families. I have seen photographs of their kids—just parent talking to parent who share a funny story or observation or simply a good word at the end of the day. But in the end, put most simply, they are here to take care of us.

As we near the end of this century, we are often impelled to observe this country is cynical. It is, I suppose, in the American character to question our condition and bemoan the things that are not now as we remember them to be. But in truth, the sacrifice of these men and their families are akin to the selfless ideal that has made this country great. The bravery and the commitment to community that these men possessed will be carried on by their families.

I have had the honor to meet with the families of slain officers from my home State. The strength and the perseverance that is exemplified by each of them is an inspiration to me.

My thoughts and prayers go out to these families and others who have been devastated by this type of senseless violence. There is no answer to the meaningless violence that occurs, but we must celebrate and memorialize the lives of the officers who serve and protect us.

To the Capitol Hill Police, I would like to simply say, I am sorry for your loss and for our loss because we are family here, to say how proud all of us are of you and to thank you for your service that you give to us each and every day, and to say to the families of Officer Gibson, Officer Chestnut: Your husband, your father, demonstrated service beyond self in the most dramatic way—by sacrificing their lives for our safety, for our freedom.

Our prayers are with John, with Officer Chestnut, with their families, and with the other officers who continue that tradition of being truly some of the finest anywhere in the Nation or the world. You are our friends, you are our guardians, so that we can do our duty here in the Nation's Capitol. God bless these two officers and God bless what they mean to all of us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, it has struck me often in my 10 years here in the Senate that one can look at the life we lead here in different ways. In one sense, in a sense that is most visible, we do the work of the country: We hold hearings, we meet with constituents, we legislate. This is the Congress of the United States.

But in another sense, it has struck me increasingly over the years I have been honored to be here that there is another level of experience in this Capitol, which is that we are, in our own way, a small town of our own. We are a community. Yes, we have the Members of Congress and we have all who serve in our offices so well. We have the officers of both Chambers and those who work to keep these Chambers going. But there is a broader community here that we are all part of. It is the people who keep the buildings in such good repair.

We have doctors, we have nurses, we have clergy people, we have representatives of the media who live in this community with us who cover us. We even